

CHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAHS. Aquatic animal health specialist

Accredited inspector. The individual responsible for conducting monitoring and surveillance of farmed and wild aquatic animals for diseases and pathogens of concern. This person may be a USDA-accredited veterinarian, AFS-certified fish health inspector, AFS-certified fish pathologist, or person otherwise deemed qualified by the Federal co-competent authorities or State agency responsible for aquatic animal health.

Active surveillance. Systematic or regular testing of population samples for a designated disease with a specific goal of determining pathogen presence, prevalence, or incidence.

AFS. American Fisheries Society

AFS-certified fish health inspector. A person recognized by the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS/FHS) as competent and ethical in the conduct of fish health surveillance and monitoring. AFS/FHS maintains a roster of certified fish health inspectors.

AFS-certified fish pathologist. A person recognized by the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS/FHS) as competent and ethical in the conduct of fish health management, surveillance, and monitoring. AFS/FHS maintains a roster of certified fish pathologists.

AFS/FHS. Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society

APHIS. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Appropriate level of protection (ALOP). The level of sanitary measures necessary for the protection of human, animal, or plant life determined by a country as appropriate to its needs, as described in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, World Trade Organization (SPS Agreement).

Approved laboratory. A laboratory that is approved by the competent authorities of the United States to conduct aquatic animal health activities.

Aquaculture. The rearing of aquatic animals under controlled and managed conditions for one or more of the following purposes: providing food for human consumption; enhancing and supplementing free ranging/wild populations; restoring depleted or endangered aquatic animal species; and providing economic, development, and recreational opportunities.

Aquaculturists (private, public and tribal). Staff at aquaculture facilities trained in observing the health of animals; removing, counting, and recording mortalities;

documenting unusual observations; and identifying when a situation requires the services of an aquatic animal health specialist with more advanced knowledge and tools for disease identification.

Aquatic animal health specialist (AAHS). Highly trained and experienced individuals with knowledge of general and specific disease processes of the aquatic hosts and the environments in which the hosts live. AAHSs work closely with aquaculturists and resource managers to investigate the occurrence, cause, and prevention of disease events. An AAHS may be a licensed veterinarian or person otherwise deemed qualified by the Federal co-competent authorities or State agency responsible for aquatic animal health.

Authorized agents. Technicians qualified and legally recognized by States to collect samples and test for certain poultry pathogens in the USDA National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). Similar to the AFS Fish Health Inspector, the veterinary technician, and the aquatic animal health specialist.

AVIC. Area veterinarian-in-charge (APHIS)

Blue Book. The most current edition of *Suggested Procedures for Detection and Identification of Certain Finfish and Shellfish Pathogens*, published by the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS-FHS). It includes a section entitled “Standard procedures for aquatic animal health inspections” by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the FHS-FHS.

BMP. Best management practices

Certifying official. The person authorized by the competent authorities of the United States to sign health certificates for aquatic animals.

CFR. Code of Federal Regulations

Compartment. One or more aquaculture establishments under a common biosecurity management system containing an aquatic animal population with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or diseases for which surveillance and control measures are applied and basic biosecurity conditions are met.

Competent authorities. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration are mutually recognized as competent authorities as defined in legislation, interagency MOU's, and this national plan.

Disease. Clinical or nonclinical infection with one or more etiological agents of the diseases listed in this plan or in the OIE Code, or any other etiological agent of importance to the United States.

Diseases notifiable to OIE. Transmissible diseases considered to be of socioeconomic

and/or public health importance within countries and in the international trade of aquatic animals and aquatic animal products. They are listed in Chapter 1.1.3. of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Aquatic Animal Health Code.

Diseases of significance. Diseases that are of national or regional significance, including the list of diseases notifiable to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The United States or a region within the United States may establish its own list of diseases of significance (beyond the OIE list), provided it can demonstrate that the diseases are of socioeconomic and biological importance to their country/zone, and that a mandatory control program for the diseases does not exist in the country/zone.

DOC. U.S. Department of Commerce

DOI. U.S. Department of Interior

EEP. Emergency exotic pathogen

EEZ. Exclusive Economic Zone. This area is defined as the marine waters from 3 to 200 miles off the coasts of the United States and its territories as specified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Emergency exotic pathogen (EEP). A pathogen not previously known to occur in a zone/region and known to cause significant economic and biological impacts. An emergency exotic pathogen may be present in a host without clinical disease. The finding of an EEP will result in immediate management actions.

EPA. United States Environmental Protection Agency

ESA. Endangered Species Act

Fallowing. The process by which aquatic animal premises are kept vacant for a period of time for the control and management of aquatic animal pathogens.

FAD. Foreign animal disease

FAO. Food and Agriculture Organization (United Nations)

FDA. U.S. Food and Drug Administration

FEC. Federal Executive Committee of the Task Force, made of the voting members of the Task Force who represent APHIS (chair), FWS (vice-chair) and NOAA Fisheries (vice-chair).

Federal Executive Committee of the Task Force (FEC). Group made of the voting members of the Task Force who represent APHIS (chair), FWS (vice-chair) and NOAA Fisheries (vice-chair).

Fish health inspectors. See AFS-certified fish health inspector.

Free aquaculture establishment. An aquaculture facility that fulfills the requirements for recognition as free of the pathogens of significance as specified by this technical working document and is recognized as such by the competent authorities.

Free country. A country that fulfills the requirements for recognition as free of the specified diseases/pathogens of significance as specified by regulation.

Free zone. A zone that fulfills the requirements for recognition as free from the specified diseases/pathogens of significance as determined by regulation.

FWS. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior

Health certificate. The official document signed by a certifying official attesting to the health and pathogen status of specified aquatic animals.

Incidence. The number of new outbreaks of disease within a specified time period in a defined aquatic animal population.

Infected zone. A defined zone in which a disease/pathogen of significance has been diagnosed. This area must be clearly defined according to the area's physical dimensions and boundaries and the ecological, environmental, and epidemiological factors.

Inspection. The procedure conducted by or under the direct supervision of an accredited inspector in order to determine the status of aquatic animals with regard to diseases or pathogens considered in this plan. The inspection may include a clinical examination, laboratory tests, and the application of procedures that could reveal the presence of infection in the population.

Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA). The interagency Federal subcommittee to the Committee on Science, National Science and Technology Council, Office of the President.

JSA. Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture.

Lot. A group of aquatic animals of the same species in one aquaculture establishment. The group must have originated from the same spawning population, and must have always shared the same water supply.

NAAHP. National Aquatic Animal Health Plan

NAAHTF. National Aquatic Animal Health Task Force (*Task Force*) on Aquaculture

NMFS. National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries)

NOAA. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce

Nontargeted surveillance. The broad sampling of aquatic animal populations across multiple risk categories.

Notifiable pathogens (NP): The pathogens that cause diseases of aquatic animals that are considered to be of economic and/or biological importance within regions/zones in the United States, and that are significant in the international trade of aquatic animals and aquatic animal products. A notifiable pathogen may be present in a host without clinical disease.

Notification. The procedure by which the U.S. competent authorities, State, tribal, and other appropriate regulatory authorities are informed of the finding of a reportable aquatic animal disease (RAAD).

NP. Notifiable pathogens

NPIP. National Poultry Improvement Plan. A Federal-State-industry partnership for improving poultry and poultry products. Some provisions of the NPIP can be used as a model for aquatic animal programs.

NVSL. National Veterinary Services Laboratories

OIE. World Organization for Animal Health

OIE Code. The most current edition of the Aquatic Animal Health Code of the World Organization for Animal Health.

OIE Diagnostic Manual. The most current edition of the Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animals of the World Organization for Animal Health.

PAAD. Program Aquatic Animal Disease. An infectious diseases of sufficient biological, social and economic importance for which prescribed actions will be taken for management and control, in addition to being reported to the U.S. competent authorities. See Chapter 4 for the criteria and list of PAADs.

Passive Surveillance. Opportunistic sampling of clinical or subclinical suspect cases, or nonclinical cases of a population. Passive surveillance typically continues until the point at which disease (or pathogen) has been detected.

Pathogens of regional significance. The causative infectious agents of diseases of significance listed in this plan or designated as such for a zone within the United States. A specified pathogen of regional significance may be present in a host without clinical disease.

PNP. Private nonprofit fishery cooperatives

Population. A group of aquatic animals of the same species residing together within the same zone. The group must have a similar history of exposure to diseases/pathogens of significance.

Prevalence. The total number of infected aquatic animals expressed as a percentage of the total number of aquatic animals in a lot or population at one specific time.

Quarantine. Maintaining aquatic animals in containment to prevent exposure of the aquatic animals or effluent from the containers to other animals or the environment.

RAAD. Reportable Aquatic Animal Disease. An infectious disease that must be reported to xxx according to the list of notifiable OIE aquatic animal diseases or the U.S. competent authorities. See Chapter 4 for the criteria and list of RAADs.

Reference laboratory. A laboratory identified by the competent authorities of the United States or OIE as capable of conducting tests confirming the identity of a specific aquatic animal pathogen. A list of reference laboratories and their associated pathogens can be found in Appendix X.

Risk. The probability of an adverse event occurring that involves aquatic animal health or public health or is of economic importance (such as a disease outbreak), and the magnitude of the event or harm that would result.

Risk Assessment. The process of identifying and estimating the risks associated with the movement of aquatic animals or aquatic animal products and evaluating the consequences of taking those risks.

SPF water. Specific pathogen-free water. Well, spring, bore-hole, or treated water demonstrated to be free of specified pathogens.

SPS agreement. The Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, World Trade Organization.

Surveillance. A systematic series of investigations of a given population of aquatic animals to detect the occurrence of disease or pathogens for program management purposes, which may involve testing tissues or fluids from aquatic animals in the population.

Suspect. A susceptible aquatic animal population or individual animal, or the parents of the aquatic animal in question, that have been exposed to a reportable aquatic animal disease (RAAD) due to the presence of the infectious agent in cohorts, or via horizontal exposure due to the presence of the disease/pathogen in other aquatic animal populations or vectors within the zone.

Targeted Surveillance. The sampling and testing of high-risk aquatic animal populations (target populations), in which specific known risk factors exist, for specific pathogens.

Task Force. The members of the National Aquatic Animal Health Task Force (NAAHTF) on Aquaculture commissioned by the JSA.

Transfer. Any movement of aquatic animals or their larvae-or gametes between or within a zone, including any movements between culture facilities, watersheds, or designated zones.

U.S.C. United States Code

USDA. U.S. Department of Agriculture

USDA-accredited veterinarian. A veterinarian who has completed a voluntary program which certifies practitioners to work cooperatively with Federal veterinarians and State animal health officials in conducting official duties at the request of the Federal Government.

U.S. Title 50. Regulation (title 50 of the CFR, part 16) that requires live or dead unviscerated fish of the Salmonidae family, and their live fertilized eggs or gametes, to be tested and found free of certain viral pathogens before import into the United States. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) administers this regulation. The “Title 50 inspector” must issue a signed statement attesting that these commodities have been tested and found free of the listed pathogens. Additionally, the importation to the United States of live salmonid fish requires the written permission of the Director of FWS. The Director of FWS maintains a list of approved Title 50 inspectors.

Veterinary technician. An individual typically licensed by a State who functions under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The technician may be authorized to conduct many functions including sample collection, processing, testing, and recording and reporting results to a veterinarian.

Watershed. Geographically distinct river basins that have separate entrances to marine and/or estuarine areas. A watershed may include one or more primary river systems.

WTO. World Trade Organization

Zone. A portion of one or more countries comprising an entire catchment area from the source of a waterway to the estuary, more than one catchment area, part of a catchment area from the source of a waterway to a barrier, or a part of coastal area, or an estuary with a precise geographical delimitation that consists of a homologous hydrological system.

Zoning. Identifying zones for disease control purposes.